

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

ABE, et al.

U.S. Appl. No.: 09/770,229

Filed: January 29, 2001

For: Method for manufacturing glass base

material, glass base material and optical

fiber

Art Unit: to be assigned

Examiner: to be assigned

Atty. Dkt. 007874-0275670

March 12, 2003 PECEIVED

GROUP 1700

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97, and 1.98 the applicants enclose herewith and as listed in the accompanying Form PTO-1449, documents for consideration by the Patent Office. Documents AR and BR, copies enclosed herewith, were cited in the official action dated February 17, 2003 in a counterpart Taiwanese application (see enclosed document RR). Documents JR, KR, LR, MR and NR were cited in a search report for EPO Patent Appl. No. 01250028 (see enclosed document SR).

The applicants do not waive any rights to appropriate action to establish patentability over any of the listed documents should they be applied as references against the claims of the present application. This statement should not be construed as a representation that more material information does not exist or that an exhaustive search of the relevant art has been made.

This information disclosure statement is intended to be fully compliant with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.96, and 1.97. However, should the examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(f), to enable the Applicants to comply fully.

The applicants respectfully request consideration of the cited documents and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-captioned application. In view of the fact that a first official action has not been received, the applicants believe that no fee is required for the consideration of this information disclosure statement. However, if the Patent Office determines that a fee is necessary for the consideration, the fee may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 03-3975 under Order No. 007874/0275670.

Respectfully submitted,

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